Even, Sir, with regard to distribution companies. If non-performing distribution companies are there, even in Orissa, Sir, the Regulatory Commission could, first of all, suspend even the licence and then even revoke the licence. So, that could be possible when the State Government take it up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Harassment for dowry

*326. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women who committed suicide due to constant harassment for dowry by the victim's husband or her in-laws during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases filed against their husbands and in-laws for the last three years;

(c) the State-wise details of such cases;

(d) whether Government had initiated action against persons found guilty; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) to (e) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects. Therefore, primary responsibility of preventing and controlling crimes against women including dowry related crimes rests with the State Governments. The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), on the basis of reports received from the State Governments, has reported that the number of suicides by women due to dowry dispute, State-wise, during the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 were 2370, 2378 and 2347 respectively. Detailed break-up is given in the Statement (See below).

Data on cases filed against husbands and in-laws of women who committed suicides due to dowry disputes is not maintained by NCRB.

Statement

Suicides by women due to dowry dispute during the year 2001 to 2003

SI. No. State/UT	2001	2002	2003
1 2	3	4	5
1. Andhra Pradesh	201	250	284
2. Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3. Assam	13	15	21
4. Bihar	16	21	29
5. Chhattisgarh	45	50	46
6. Goa	3	1	1
7. Gujarat	41	31	13
8. Haryana	69	24	14
9. Himachal Pradesh	10	6	5
10. Jammu & Kashmir	9	16	16
11. Jharkhand	0	0	0
12. Karnataka	89	101	45
13. Kerala	25	22	7
14. Madhya Pradesh	470	536	516
15. Maharashtra	406	299	310
16. Manipur	0	0	0
17. Meghalaya	0	0	JO
18. Mizoram	0	0	0
19. Nagaland	0	0	0
20. Orissa	131	100	72
21. Punjab	0	2	6
22. Rajasthan	42	83	62
23. Sikkim	0	0	0
24. Tamil Nadu	108	113	189
25. Tripura	0	8	26
26. Uttar Pradesh	380	361	285
27. Uttaranchal	13	3	1-4
28. West Bengal	265	286	341
29. Total (States)	2336	2328	2302
30. A&N Islands	0	0	0
31. Chandigarh	5	0	3
32. D& N Haveli	0	0	0
33. Daman & Diu	0	0	0
34. Delhi (UT)	29	50	42

1	2	3	4	5
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
36.	Pondicherry	0	0	0
37.	Total (UTs)	. 34	50	45
38.	Total (All India)	2370	2378	2347

Source: Accidential deaths and suicides in India.

Children killed by army ambush in J&K

*327. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that an army ambush killed three innocent children in J&K; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking so that such mistakes do not happen in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) In the light of the recent spurt in infiltration attempts in the State of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), the Army troops have been put on high alert. On the night of 23rd/24th July, 2005, the Army laid an ambush near Bangargund (near Vilgam in Kupwara District in North Kashmir). At about 01.55 hours, the ambush party noticed a movement of three to four persons. As they approached the ambush site, the Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) challenged the group, asking them to identify themselves. The challenged persons started running in various directions. They were again warned to stop. However, when they did not heed to the warning, the JCO activated the mine, that had been placed to cover the ambush site. On hearing the blast and subsequent cries of wounded persons, the JCO and two other Army personnel moved ahead to investigate. The search of the ambush site revealed two fatal and two non-fatal civilian casualties. The injured were immediately provided first aid and evacuated to a Field Ambulance. One of the injured later succumbed to injuries. On further investigation, it was revealed that the casualties were civilians aged between 15 to 18 years and residents of Bangargund village.